



Poor Nutrition Taking its Toll on the Health of Mongolians

By Jacinda Mawson, Consultant

After transition, production of major foods plummeted, including wheat, potatoes and vegetables. Overall, Mongolians began eating a more simplified diet, based upon meat and flour, and consuming fewer kilocalories than before. Concurrently, the prevalence of poverty increased dramatically, and currently at least 25 percent of Mongolians live under the poverty line. In addition, nutrition status is not adequate. Almost one-quarter of Mongolian children under five years old are shorter than they should be, due to chronic malnutrition, rickets, or some combination of the two. About 40 percent of children and at least 20 percent of pregnant mothers suffer from anemia, a population prevalence considered by the World Health Organization to be of high public health significance. Iodine deficiency is widespread; in some geographical areas 40 to 60 percent of the population display some degree of goitre, while one-half of Mongolian children under five years old display clinical signs of rickets. Not only are acute deficiencies on the rise, but the incidence of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease and cancer continues to increase, as does the rate of alcoholism.

Members of the United Nations country team, including WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UNDP, along with FAO and IFAD, have been collaborating with counterparts from the Ministry of Agriculture and Industry and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare as part of the theme group on Food Security and Nutrition to draft the Memorandum of Understanding on Food Security and Nutrition. The MOU is coordinated by the UN Resident Coordinator's office, and emphasizes four main objectives: policy and activities, food production, household food security, and improving nutrition status. The agreement was inspired by the recent flurry of activity in this sector, including the success of the Mongolian Government's Green Revolution, and the ministerial review of the National Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition. By pairing food security and nutrition together, the theme group hopes to address the issues more holistically and specifically. For example, some micronutrient issues can be addressed by looking at food supply and fortification of foods.

A pledge of solidarity and partnership forms the basis of the MOU, to continue to build upon international conferences and agreements, and to acknowledge and continue the success of current activities like the Green Revolution. The MOU is also a pledge to look towards the future more cohesively. The United Nations affirms the commitment by the UN country team to build a better partnership with the Government by enhancing cooperation within its own agencies, thereby providing more coordinated support. Enhancing coordination among UN agencies embodies the global UN strategy for cooperation outlined by Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his Agenda for Reform.

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1998 Global Report Tackles Myths of Consumption

The world is producing and consuming more goods and services than ever before in human history. A significant portion of this consumer boom has reached some developing countries. Between 1975 and 1995, the number of radios sold in Africa increased by more than 400 per cent; TVs in Latin America by more than 500 per cent; automobiles in East Asia by 1,400 per cent. That's the good news.

This year's global Human Development Report, released at the beginning of September, goes to the heart of the world's consumption patterns, exploding many commonly-held myths. The Report says that the world will consume a record US \$24 trillion in goods and services in 1998, six times the figure of 1975.

The Report targets the new global consumers, the products they consume and the impact this has on the environment and the quality of people's lives. The 1998 Global Human Development Report also challenges readers by putting a price tag on bringing basic consumption to all the world's population. To provide basic education for all would cost US \$6 billion; Europeans spend US \$11 billion a year on ice cream. To bring basic health and nutrition to all would cost US \$13 billion; Americans and Eu-

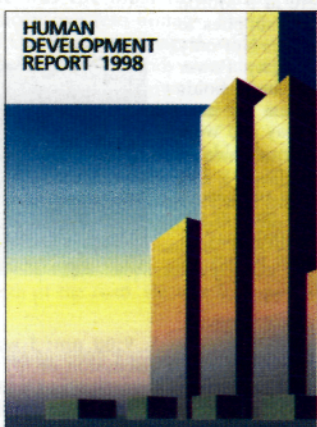
ropeans spend US \$12 billion a year on perfume. To put every child in school would cost US \$6 billion; Europeans imbibe US \$105 billion in alcoholic drinks every year.

People are consuming more in food, energy, education, transportation, communication and entertainment than ever before. However, the question is posed: "Do all people in the world have the same access to this consumption?" The Report pinpoints one billion people in the world who can't even meet their most basic consumption requirements: food and water.

Among the 4.4 billion people living in developing countries, three-fifths live without basic sanitation; one-third are without safe drinking water; one-quarter lack adequate housing; one-fifth live beyond reach of modern health services; one-fifth percentage are undernourished.

The report notes that, despite these high growth rates in consumption, developing countries are nowhere near catching up with levels of consumption in the world's richest nations. It also warns that when social standards rise faster than incomes, consumption patterns become unbalanced. However consumption is the lifeblood of much human progress and the real

issue is not consumption, but its patterns and effects.



Mongolia is at the same 101st place as last year among 174 countries according to the Human Development Index, that is below than the average in the medium human development rank. Canada is topping the list for 5 consecutive years now.

The Human Development Index measures the overall achievements in a country in three basic dimensions of human development - longevity, knowledge and a decent standard of living. It is measured by life expectancy, educational attainment (adult literacy and combined primary, secondary and tertiary enrolment) and adjusted income.



The Citizen Information Service Centres in Ulaanbaatar, Tuv aimag, Kharkhorin, Arvaikheer (Uvurkhangai aimag), Mandalgovi (Dundgovi aimag), Murun (Khuvsgul aimag) help to support democracy through provision of access to information and information technology.

Northeast Asian Women's Forum Boosts Regional Cooperation

Northeast Asian Women's forum "Women's Empowerment and Development" was held in Ulaanbaatar at the end of August. Bringing together 320 representatives of women's NGOs from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea and Taiwan - and reviewed the developments in women's situation over the past two years since the Seoul forum.

Unemployment, poverty, discrimination, violence against women, inadequate situation of rural women, a gap between gender equality, increasing capacity of women's NGOs in the region was discussed at the forum. The participants urge governments to take measures towards providing better social protection to women; creation of desirable working conditions and opportunities for women; improve access of women to financial services and training and education in business management and administration; ratify the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families; enforce gender equality and ensure women's right to equal participation and representation in political decision-making. These actions to be enforced at the national and regional levels.

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News in a flash

Mongolia became a member of the international organization for a natural gas pipeline. The North-East Asian regional conference in late August was funded by UNDP Mongolia under the Think Tank Project. Representatives from Japan, Russia, China, UK, America and others took part in the conference. Experts are saying a gas pipeline through Mongolia would have many benefits: economic, political, social and environmental. Mongolia is the shortest route from the gas fields of Siberia to the booming market of China. To be or not to be, that is the question before the end of this year.

"Rumour, hearsay and yellow journalism in newspapers leaves many organizations tainted with the odor of corruption," according to Mr. Tserendorj, UNDP Programme Officer. "This phenomenon occurs in many countries in transition. Recent examples are the issues related to Erdenet copper-mining corporation, the merging of the state-owned bank with the private one and the customs department. The major thing is to start fighting corruption while it's small and handy, otherwise it deepens and grows into the roots. It can balloon beyond the government's control and be very hard to eliminate."

As the follow up to a Bangkok regional workshop on anti-corruption, the Mongolian government working group on corruption is exploring further actions to be undertaken by the government. The working group wants further study to be done on this issue to determine how widespread corruption is.

To assist the government in this action, UNDP is inviting a Singaporean professor for a one-week mission to Mongolia. The mission will perform a needs assessment, formulate an action plan and explore the possibilities of opening the representative office of Transparency International in Mongolia. Anti-corruption is one of the main issues receiving support from UNDP.

As a follow up to the National Summit on Sustainable Development in the 21st Century, the western region is conducting a workshop at the end of this month. While discussing the impact of this summit, the workshop will look into details of implementation of MAP-21 and the integration of Aimag Action Programmes with the national one. Governors of Hovd, Govi-Altai and Uvs aimags will take part in the workshop.

The world's population is changing shape, profoundly affecting development prospects for the 21st century. It is still growing by more than 80 million people per year, and will pass the 6 billion mark in mid-1999.

More young people than ever are entering their childbearing and working years - over 1 billion are now between the ages of 15-24, mostly due to high fertility rates in the recent past. At the same time, greater numbers of people, and growing proportions of countries' populations, are living to older ages.

The future will be shaped by how well societies meet the needs of these "new generations": education and health - including reproductive health - for the young, and social, medical and financial support for the elderly. This challenge is the theme of this year's State of World Population report from the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). The official global launch of the report took place at the beginning of September.

Lake Huvsgul

Development Profile:

Introducing Investigative Journalism to Local Media

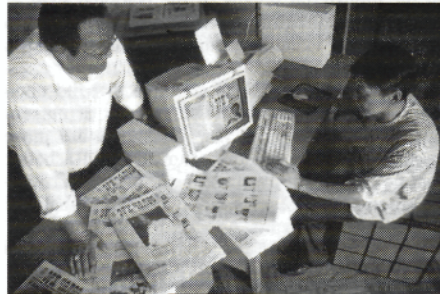
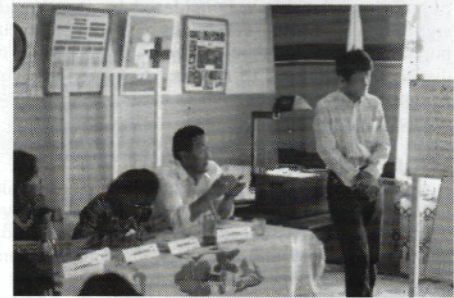
Text and photos by David South



Moron, August 14

1. 9:00 am: It is day two of the training and 11 journalists and the two trainers (Ms. Oyunsetseg and Mr. Batbold from the Press Institute of Mongolia) quickly run through the day's schedule. The journalists will spend the next two hours interviewing subjects for their stories. The investigative journalism training consists of a facilitated workshop and out-of-class assignments. All the journalists said this was the first time they had explored in detail this sub-category of journalism. Not all the students were experienced journalists but that was made up for by the quality of the two facilitators, who both kept the workshop lively.

2. 11:30 am: The debate begins over the stories. One team has chosen to look at poverty alleviation projects at the Bak level. They want to write a story looking at poor accountability for loans, the practice of nepotism and the ability of recipients to start small businesses. The team investigating the power black out wants to do further interviews with the poorest people affected by the black outs.



journalism," says editor Mr. Nyamjav. "The training has noticeably changed our stories - I know how to criticize reporters and push them to be more investigative."

4. 8:30 pm: A benzene shortage hit hardest outside the capital of Ulaanbaatar. Here at a Moron gas station cars patiently wait for new supplies to arrive or to receive a ration of benzene. Not only is there no gas, there is also no electricity. Power station director Mr. Sukhbaatar says households owe the utility Tg 27 million, which has not been paid by 3,500 households (1,000 did pay and were cut off anyway). It is the poorest households in the ger districts who are unable to pay but Sukhbaatar says he is caught between a rock and a hard place: gas companies need to be paid or the power station gets cut off. Either people pay or he takes them to court and recovers the money by confiscating household possessions.



5. 9:00 pm: I was asked to conduct a one-hour discussion of my experiences as an investigative journalist in Canada and England. The debate afterwards was lively (despite being at 9 pm!). A common question was how to deal with pressure from government and corporations to alter the content of stories. Being regional journalists, a common complaint was the difficulty in distributing newspapers to remote communities. They asked how international donors could help in this matter, pointing out that in the past the government subsidized newspaper distribution to a greater extent. They also wanted a connection to international journalists in some way, preferably through an association. My general impression was that

UNDP's projects have helped a great deal in connecting these journalists but much more needs to be done. They face enormous difficulties not encountered by journalists in the capital, including stagnant local economies, large distances, inadequate training and revenue.

Economic Reforms Exact Heavier Price on Women

In June UNDP Mongolia hosted a visit of journalists to see our projects in Ulaanbaatar and the Gobi Desert. This story is just one among many that resulted from that trip.

By **Suvendrini Kakuchi**

Life had never been easy for Jinsmaa, who lives in a small arid town in the South Gobi Desert. But when the national government decided to embark on free market reforms nearly a decade ago, things got even tougher for her.

While wages had been low under the socialist system, no one had really been in want even in the remote regions because the state had provided for the basics of life: health care, education, jobs and pensions.

But then the Soviet Union, which had been subsidizing Mongolia in large part, fell apart. Forced to fend for itself, this Central Asian country decided that the only way to survive was to renounce socialism and implement economic reforms.

The transition, however, has been painful for Mongolians - especially the women, as well as the children and the elderly, says UNDP. Jinsmaa, for example, lost her job as a schoolteacher two years ago. Indeed, of the 900 people now unemployed in Dalanzadgad, where Jinsmaa and her family live, 600 are women.

And while nationwide statistics indicate that the percentage of unemployed women are just slightly higher than that of men - 51 per cent against 49 per cent - observers say women are more likely to stay jobless than their male counterparts.

Childcare subsidies have all but disappeared, as has state aid for the elderly. Women are thus being expected to stay home more than ever to take care of the aged and the children - many of whom are spending much of the time at home because their parents can no longer afford to send them to school.

Official figures also indicate that of Mongolia's estimated 46,000 households, almost 80 per cent are headed by single mothers, with divorcees and widows making up the majority of the household heads.

Social workers say economic hardship is a major factor in the rise of broken families in the country. It is also one of the causes of the increasing number of women who are being beaten up by their husbands.

Unsurprisingly, social workers say large numbers of Mongolians who live below the poverty line - defined as those earning lower than Tg 9,500 (US\$11) a month - are women. Of Mongolia's 2.3 million people, about 40 per cent are poor, and their ranks are growing every day.

In the same year, Jinsmaa lost her job, a National Forum on Women in Development was held here in the Mongolian capital. The Forum pinpointed the need to empower women with jobs that would help them out of their financial ruts and would also enable them to uphold their independence.

The goal, said the Forum participants, was not just to aid Mongolian women in surviving the economic transition, but also to help them strengthen their decision-making abilities and be in control of their own lives.

But as one social worker here admits, "The road is a long one. With the current economic problems faced by the country, there is lack of funds to transfer to women's programmes."

Not many people are looking at the politicians for help, since women's representation in politics is very low. Out of Mongolia's 76 members of parliament, only seven are women. All the Cabinet members are men.

Jinsmaa, though, has been fortunate enough to become a part of a grassroots project that makes and sells traditional Mongolian saddles and boots. The project is under the National Poverty Alleviation Programme that is funded jointly by the World Bank and the UNDP.

A former collective farm supervisor had spearheaded the project, managing to get a loan of US\$ 250 for it. There are 16 young women, including Jinsmaa, now 27, who are part of it. The women, work five days a week and each earn an average of Tg 30,000 (\$35).

The basic materials for the saddles and boots are bought at the Chinese border. The work is hard, and on any given hour during any workday, a visitor can find most of the women lost in their work. The intricate designs are sewn with a bright, blue thread, the needles alternately flying up and then digging hard into solid leather.

Jinsmaa says she wants to go back to school and study again, perhaps a course that can land her a better job that will pay more. But she acknowledges that this is just not possible now, given Mongolia's current sorry economic state. Jinsmaa is thankful for small mercies. At least she and her husband - who has kept his job as an electrician - are still married. And while her fingers are all scarred because of her constant needlework, Jinsmaa says she is happy with Mongolia's economic transition, and is determined to make it. "I work hard," she declares, "and am grateful for being employed."

(Courtesy Inter Press Service)

Up close and Personal

Interview with Mr. Mijiddorj, UNDP Senior driver

Which trip to the countryside was the most interesting and memorable?

I've been to all regions now, except western aimags. From what I've seen in my trips; the most impressive project was the one in Uvurkhangai aimag. A widow with 11 kids feeding the whole family. It was really impressive to see how she and her kids were doing different things in order to live. They were milling barley and producing flour for their own consumption and for sale, collecting scrap-metal for exchange for other things, making brushes from horse hair and selling them. This shows that if you work hard and really try you can reach your goal.

May be you can share with us an anecdote or a funny story from your trips.

Once we went down to South Gobi with a journalist and a consultant from Bangladesh. It happened so that the consultant arrived in the country the day before and his luggage was delayed. The next day after arrival, he had to go with us to the country. So, he had no choice and went to the Gobi in what he was dressed. He bought some bread and mayonnaise. This was all he took with him to the Gobi. Driving to the Gobi is very far, about 1,500 kms both ways. On this journey he was so tired and worn out and complained about the length of the road. He was so happy when he got back to the city. It was fun. We had nice time there.

When did you join the UN?

I started with a project in 1990 and in 1992 I joined UNDP.

How much has UNDP changed?

Before we did not have this many staff. Up to 1996-1997 we did not use to go out of the city. Now we go to the country quite often. As well, before we had only two drivers in the office, but now we have four - even then everyone is so busy, no one is sitting for pleasure. Three ResReps have changed in my time.

How do you see your future?

The only thing I pray for is not to see anyone in my family in the "street". Number of people, who lived reasonably well in the past, have become careless.

What do you keep telling your children?

Be friendly with anyone, treat people equally and I always tell not to have bad intentions towards other people. If you have bad intentions, I believe the failure will fall back on you.

What movies do you like watching?

Old Mongolian movies. I watch them everytime they are on TV - and I never get bored. They are so real, good casting, good production. They are not like modern movies. Not comparable. As well I like watching cartoons with my kids.

News in a flash

The UN General Assembly has declared the years 1996-2006 "The Decade for the Eradication of Poverty Worldwide". Each year on October 17 is Poverty Eradication Day. Since 1996, the National Poverty Alleviation Programme Office in Mongolia, UN agencies and with the help of many other organizations commemorated the day successfully. Variety of remarkable activities directed towards helping out the poor took place during the last two years. Charity concerts for kindergartens of kids from poor families and street children, skills training activities among the poor and street kids, visiting the poverty alleviation projects locally, exhibition and marketing of goods and products produced under the various poverty alleviation projects. These activities had their significance in raising the awareness of the community and solidifying the pledge to fight poverty.

This year the day is going to be commemorated with various activities involving NGOs, the business community, international organizations and the diplomatic corps; a charity concert; a display of products of vulnerable group people. A special activity "Let's respect and help each other" will also be organized, offering an opportunity for people to help their neighbours, street kids, elderly people, orphans and other needy people. A collection of clothes, food, books, pens, fuel and other goodies will also take place.

The first UN online magazine "Ger" is going to be launched at the beginning of September. The theme of the first issue is "Youth in Transition". The magazine is not a newsletter, but life stories that give insight into the way young people live. Articles opening people's eyes to the many lifestyles, aspirations, hardships, dreams and disappointments that are the hallmark of Mongolian youth in the years following communism, will be the major scope of the magazine. You can read the magazine on the UN website at <http://www.un-mongolia.mn>.

The national Youth summit took place from August 22-26. Youth is the main target of HIV/AIDS and STD prevention activities. During the summit, with the funding of more than Tg 200,000 from UNDP's HIV/AIDS project, various measures will be taken to disseminate information, professional advice and in-kind assistance. At the Youth Advocacy Show on HIV/AIDS and STDs, condoms and advertising materials were distributed among more than 1,000 participants from all over the country. The most interesting part of the show is the role play on the ABCs of HIV prevention. As well, information will be provided on what to do and whom to address in case of STD symptoms occurrence. Participants got a wide range of information on HIV/AIDS and STDs at the summit.

Support to exports was the topic of the last Economic Club discussion, which was held in the beginning of August. This time the number of participants was limited to private sector representatives and researchers. Politicians were busy due to the on-going search for a new Prime Minister. However, the discussion was fruitful and the outcome was a draft proposal to address Mongolia's export policy. The proposal is going to be finalized and submitted to the Government.



Microcredit development in Mongolia

"It is important for Mongolia to be independent from foreign aid"

What is microcredit? Has Mongolia experienced microcredit before? Would microcredit help to reduce poverty in the country? These are common questions whenever the topic of microcredit is raised. The poverty alleviation programme was launched in Mongolia in 1994. Since that time, one of the main components of the programme has been income-generation by providing credit to vulnerable individuals and groups of people, particularly to single mothers, to help them to fight the hardships of transition. Loans given under the programme vary from Tg 50,000 to Tg 2 million. According to Mr. Robert Cater, American technical assistance expert, "Microcredit is usually between US \$50-500. So, in Mongolia, poverty credit can be considered micro, but it is not exactly credit - it is more charity assistance. It does not charge interest whereas credit involves charging interest. I would say it is important for Mongolia to be independent from foreign assistance. By charging interest and utilizing the saved money for other services, sustainable long-term provision of services will be ensured at a certain level."

It's been a month since UNDP's MicroStart Project started operation. Within this period of time work has focused on setting up the operational structure of the project. Co-chaired

by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare and the UNDP Resident Representative, the MicroStart Advisory Committee (MAC) was established. It also includes parliamentarians, private sector representatives and NGOs as members of the Committee.

The MAC has identified implementing partners: the Mongolian Women's Federation, the Liberal Women's Brain Pool (LEOS), as they are involved in credit already and have the largest network in the country. Implementation proposals were developed by the partners and approved by MAC.

Under the project four branch offices will be set up: in Hentii, Sainshand and Airag soums of Dornogovi and in one of the low-income districts in Ulaanbaatar. The project is working towards inauguration of the 1st branch in September in Hentii aimag.

As well, MAC will fund a 2nd Mongolian tier institution, which will be providing advisory support, technical assistance, development of reporting standards, provide potentially wholesale loans to partner institutions.

The total budget of the project is US \$1 million with US \$333,333 for administration and US \$ 666,666 for local institutions to set up microcredit lenders.

Food and Nutrition

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Despite such discouraging statistics, there are recent improvements in the nutrition and food security sectors. In 1997, for the first time in six years, the grain harvest increased from the year before, by nine percent from the 1996 harvest. In addition, this year thousands of families responded to the call of the Green Revolution, learning how to grow vegetables in household gardens and in local plots. As a result of their widespread efforts, the total amount of land planted with potatoes and vegetables for 1998 increased by more than 35 percent over the land area planted in 1997, and an increased output of 47 percent is expected this year. Child mortality has been decreasing, due at least in part to the success of the MOHSW/UNICEF Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. Currently, Mongolia boasts a near universal breast-feeding rate, now considered one of the most successful programmes in the world. Such partnerships between the government and the UN system, as well as cohesive integration within the nutrition and food security sector, will be the key to future successes.

On Monday, August 24 the members of the UN Food Security and Nutrition Theme Group convened a large group of all major players in food security and nutrition in Mongolia. The UN consultant presented the MOU, and government counterparts from the MAI and the MOHSW presented current activities in the sector. The meeting addressed gaps in current programming and planning. Finally, the attendees signed up for six special working groups to address issues more intensively in the future, including: Implementation and Coordination, Food Security, Food Production, Household Food Security, Nutrition, Monitoring and Evaluation. "I have been hoping for a meeting like this for three years," said Mr. Ts. Maider, initiator of the Green Revolution.

Regional Women's forum

(cont. from page 1)

In the opening speech given by Ms. D. Nergui about the rights of women, Vice Chairperson of Liberal Women's Brain Pool (LEOS) noted: "Women are not asking for privileges. All they want is participation in decision making. I personally would seriously doubt the success of an attempt to develop the country without fully mobilizing the intellect, skills and the commitment of more than half of our population, that is our women." Further, talking about how social development is important for the development of the country states: "... the financial and economic crisis that has erupted in a number of Asian countries shows what may be in store for us if economic growth-oriented policies are not combined with policies promoting social development and equitable redistribution, if the financial system is not healthy and free of corruption." At the end of her speech she noted that "women somehow always do manage to cope with the apparently insurmountable problems both in our private family lives and at work. Probably we are destined to be this strong. But we will be inspired even more if our tremendous work, our skills, commitment and motivation are duly recognized. I would like to say that our women and their organizations stand ready to cooperate with the government in this regard." This was the main message of the whole forum, of all women and women's NGOs, participated in the forum.

In Mongolia, as the follow up to the forum, it is necessary to raise the gender issue at the decision making level in order to increase and improve vote of women in decision making. In the present Parliament only seven out of 76 parliamentarians are women and none in the Cabinet.

The next regional women's forum will be held in Taiwan in the year 2000.

Arrivals/Departures

Ms. B. Bayarmaa, Programme Clerk to the Governance and Economic Transition team in UNDP finished her contract and **Ms. R. Dashnyam** is replacing her; **Ms. Ariuntuul's** contract was extended as UNDP Receptionist; **Ms. Munkhjargal** will continue as Programme Clerk to the Human Development team; **Mr. Rogier Gruys** has extended his contract as an Intranet Officer until November of this year.

List of new publications and reports available in UN Information Shop

1. Proecto TACIS City Twinning: Shared Management in Environment. / Байгаль орчны асуудлыг хамтарсан хариуцлагын дагуу зохицуулан шийдвэрлэх/ Taxis, 1997 (in English, Mongolian and Spanish)

2. Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Emerging Technology series. UNIDO, 1997 (in English)

3. Maritime Labour Conventions and Recommendations. Fourth (revised) edition ILO, 1998 (in English)

4. Investigation Report on Production Technology and Utilization of Briquette in Mongolia Korea Institute of Energy Research, China University of Mining and Technology, 1998 (in English)

5. Capacity Assessment and Development in a System and Strategic Management Context. Technical Advisory Paper No. 3, UNDP, 1998 (in English)

6. Handbook on Foreign Direct Investment by Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

Lessons from Asia, UNCTAD, 1998 (in English)

7. Foreign Direct Investment, Trade, Aid and Migration UNCTAD, International Organization for Migration, 1996 (in English)

8. Амьдралд хэрэгтэй баримтууд. Сурталчилгааны гарын авлага Монгол Улсын Эрүүл Мэндийн Яам, 1992 Монгол хэлээр

9. Conservation and Management of Yak Genetic Diversity. Proceedings of a Workshop 29-31 October, 1998, Nepal, FAO (in English)

10. Food Quality and Safety Systems. A training manual on food hygiene and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system, FAO, 1998 (in English)

11. The Green Book: An Environmental Awareness Handbook. A joint publication of EPAP, UNDP Communications Office, TACIS and the Ministry of Nature and Environment, October 1998 (in Mongolian)

We accept letters! All letters should be no more than 200 words in length. News briefs should be a maximum of 100 words each. Field reports should not exceed 350 words. The Blue Sky Bulletin is a publication of the United Nations Development Programme in Mongolia. The newsletter is published every month. The next deadline for submissions is September 20.

Subscriptions to the newsletter are free! We can send the newsletter to you electronically, via e-mail, or by post. Just send us your address and how you would like to receive the newsletter and we will rush it out straight away.

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